

## Stock Prioritization

At the March 2017, the SEDAR Committee reviewed a [document](#) that described the long-term assessment plan and developed a priority list of species for assessments in the research plan. This essentially set the list of species that is currently considered for age-based assessments. Table 1 is an excerpt of the priority species for assessment from the 2021-2022 Research and Monitoring Plan based on assessed species or species with an assessment already scheduled.

The SEDAR Steering Committee will meet in May 2022 to discuss assessments for 2025 (see **Table 1** for assessment information). The goal of the document is to provide background information on the assessment schedule and when a species was last assessed and their stock status. The SEDAR Committee is requested to review the current South Atlantic Team slots (4 spots) and one CMP Team slot for 2025 species (**Figure 1**). The South Atlantic Team 2025 assessments include the continuation of the Red Snapper Research Track and operational assessments for Gag, Snowy Grouper, and Red Porgy. The CMP Team will start a King Mackerel Assessment in 2025. The Committee can discuss future assessments as needed.

**Table 1.** Assessed or proposed assessment species in the South Atlantic along with SEDAR number, terminal year for last assessment, next assessment type, if known, stock status, and start of next assessment. Bold indicates species approved by SEDAR Steering Committee and yellow fill indicates species already on the SEDAR Planning Grid for 2025 but have not been approved.

Stock	Last Assessment	Terminal Year in Last Assessment	Last Assessment Status		Next Assessment Type	Next Assessment (Start Year)
			Overfished	Overfishing		
Black Grouper <sup>1</sup>	SEDAR 19 (2010)	2008			FWC Benchmark	2025
Spiny Lobster	SEDAR 8B Update (2010)	2009/2010				
<b>Spanish Mackerel</b>	<b>SEDAR 28 (2012)</b>	<b>2011</b>			<b>Operational (ongoing)</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Mutton Snapper</b>	<b>SEDAR 15A Update (2015)</b>	<b>2011</b>			<b>Benchmark (ongoing)</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>FLK/EFL Hogfish</b>	<b>SEDAR 37 (2014)</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>FWC Benchmark</b>	<b>2024</b>
GA-NC Hogfish <sup>2</sup>	SEDAR 37 (2014)	2012	U	U	ORCS	
<b>Blueline Tilefish</b>	<b>SEDAR 50 (2017)</b>	<b>2015</b>			<b>Operational</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>Red Grouper</b>	<b>SEDAR 53 (2017)</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Operational</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Black Sea Bass</b>	<b>SEDAR 56 (2018)</b>	<b>2016</b>			<b>Operational</b>	<b>2022</b>
Greater Amberjack	SEDAR 59 (2020)	2016			Research Track	2026
<b>Vermilion Snapper</b>	<b>SEDAR 55 (2018)</b>	<b>2016</b>			<b>Operational</b>	<b>2023</b>
Yellowtail Snapper	SEDAR 64 (2020)	2017			Benchmark	
Red Porgy	SEDAR 60 (2020)	2017	Y	Y	Operational	2025
King Mackerel	SEDAR 38 Update (2020)	2017/2018			Operational	2025
Snowy Grouper	SEDAR 36 Update (2020)	2018	Y	Y	Operational	2025
golden Tilefish	SEDAR 66 (2021)	2018			Operational	2024
Gag	SEDAR 71 (2021)	2019	Y	Y	Operational	2025
Red Snapper	SEDAR 73 (2021)	2019	Y	Y	Research Track	2024
<b>Scamp</b>	<b>SEDAR 68 (2021) ongoing</b>	<b>2017</b>	NA	NA	<b>Operational</b>	<b>2022</b>
White Grunt <sup>3</sup>					Research Track	2026
Dolphin <sup>4</sup>					Research Track	
<b>Gray Triggerfish<sup>5</sup></b>					<b>Research Track</b>	<b>2022</b>
Wreckfish <sup>6</sup>	Industry Funded Assessment	2010				
Goliath Grouper <sup>6</sup>	SEDAR 47 (2016)	2014	U	U		

<sup>1</sup> SEDAR 48 was not completed due to data issues with Gag.

<sup>2</sup> Stock was included in SEDAR 37 but was not accepted for management advice. ORCS was used.

<sup>3</sup> Multiple stocks have been identified in the South Atlantic region.

<sup>4</sup> An international assessment was requested by the Council due to the migratory nature of the stock

<sup>5</sup> Aging issues were identified for Gray Triggerfish in SEDAR 41 and the assessment was not used to make management advice.

<sup>6</sup> Recommended as a tier 3 (low priority) species group by the Council.

**Figure 1.** SEDAR Planning Grid based on the outcome of the October 21 SEDAR Steering Committee Meeting. South Atlantic Team slots are the first four on the left and CMP (last slot) assesses Mackerel.

Steering Committee Approved and SEFSC Scheduled Projects					FUTURE Requests										
Steering Committee Approved, PENDING SEFSC SCHEDULING					2024 Preliminary Projects – To Be Finalized at the Spring 2022 Meeting										
SEDAR SCHEDULE OVERVIEW – October 2021 SEDAR Steering Committee Discussion															
YEAR	SA Team				Gulf Team					Caribbean Team	HMS Team		FL FWCC	ASMFC GSMFC	CMP/ Shrimp
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	5		1	2			
2021	Scamp RT	Red Snapper OA	Gag Grouper OA	Tilefish OA	Scamp RT	Gag Grouper OA	Red Snapper RT	Red Snapper RT		Queen Trigger PR-STX-STT OA	Hammerheads RT			Gulf Menhaden OA	
2022	Scamp OA		Spanish Mackerel OA		Scamp OA	Gray Snapper OA	Red Snapper RT	Red Snapper RT			Hammerheads RT		Mutton Snapper Bench	ASFMC Menhaden OA	
2023	Vermilion OA	Gray Triggerfish RT	Black Sea Bass OA						Gulf Spanish Mackerel OA	Yellowtail (PR & STT); Stoplight Parrotfish (STX)	HH OA	HH OA		ASFMC Red Drum (RW)	
2024	Red Snapper RT	Gray Triggerfish OA	Tilefish OA	Blything Tilefish OA	Red Grouper OA	Gray Triggerfish RT	Cobia OA	Vermilion OA	Gulf Shrimp RT	Spiny Lobster OA (all islands)	Bull, Spinner, Tiger, Finetooth Sharks RT		Hogfish Bench	Gulf Menhaden OA	
2025		Gag Grouper OA	Snowy Grouper OA	Red Porgy OA	GAJ RT		Lane Snapper OA			Caribbean Hogfish	Bull, Spinner, Tiger, Finetooth Sharks OA		Black Grouper Bench?		King Mackerel OA [SA & Gulf]
2026	Red Snapper OA	GAJ RT	White Grunt RT			Gray Triggerfish OA	Tilefish or Blueline OA	Gag RT	Shrimp OA		Bull, Spinner, Tiger, Finetooth Sharks OA				
2027	Atlantic migratory Cobia OA	GAJ RT	White Grunt RT					Gag OA							

Timing of projects shown in this table is approximate and is intended for SEDAR Steering Committee workload planning purposes only. Please consult individual project schedules for specific start and end dates.